

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SNM-02 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6551

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR/MEX

SUBJ: PREFAB MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS FACILITY FOR
CULIACAN BASE

S/NM FOR VANCE; AID/WER/INC FOR WAMPLER; DEA/EOI FOR
CUSACK; AID/GC FOR FINK; DEA/SAO/MEX/FOR SWANK

REF: (A) STATE 137715; (B) TELCON BERNAL-HALL; (C) TELCON
MCBEE-BERNAL

1. SUMMARY: STEERING COMMITTEE DISCUSSED PREBAF
HANGAR PROJECT WITH DR. GERTZ UPON TRANSMITTAL OF
REF(A). DR GERTZ NAMED ENG. MARISCAL FLORES, WHO
IS NOW CHIEF OF TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND
INFORMATIN, AS THE PROJECT OFFICER. MARISCAL
DISCUSSED REQUIREMENTS WITH AG AERO SERVICES MAINT-
ANCE AND CHIEF BELL TEAM SUPERVISOR AND TRAVELED
TO HOUSTON TO INITIATE EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH AMANU-
FACTURER SUGGESTED BY SER/INC. MANUFACTURER NOW
IN CONTACT WITH SER/INC. MISSION REQUESTS DRAFT
LETTER OF AGREEMENT IN ORDER OT EXPEDITE PROCUREMENT
AND ESTABLISHFIRM TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETION OF
FACILITY IN CULIACAN. END SUMMARY.

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2. INITIALLY, WHEN DR. GERTZ AND HIS SENIOR STAFF ASSUMED CONTROL

OF THE ERADICATION-INTERDICTION CAMPAIGN IN NOVEMBER 1975, THEY WERE NOT CONVINCED THAT USING THE CITY OF CULIACAN AS THE CENTRAL BASE FOR THE NORTHWEST ZONE REPRESENTED THE BEST LOCATION. THE EXPERIENCE ACQUIRED DURING PHASE I OF TRIZO HAS DISPELLED THEIR DOUBTS ALTHOUGH THEY HAD SOME SUCCESS IN DECENTRALIZING BY DEPLOYING RESOURCES TO THE ADVANCE BASES DURING THE HEIGHT OF THE CAMPAIGN.

3. DR. GERTZ, BASED ON HIS EXPERIENCE AND UNDER ADVICE FROM HIS SENIOR STAFF, JUDGES CULIACAN IS THE HUB OF THE OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY FOR THE NORTHWEST ZONE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE CENTRAL BASE DUE TO THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE OF THE AG DISTRICT OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE REPUBLIC. ADDITIONALLY, CULIACAN'S GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION IN RELATION TO THE CRITICAL GROWING AREAS, SUPPORTED BY THE STATISTICS COMPILED DURING THE PAST ERADICATION CAMPAIGN, STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS COURSE OF ACTION.

4. ENG. MARISCAL FLORES RECENTLY CORROBORATED THAT CULIACAN WILL REMAIN THE CENTRAL BASE DURING A MEETING AT THE AG HANGAR WITH DEA AND NAU REPRESENTATIVES. HE RAISED THE QUESTION AS TO WHAT IS A REALISTIC TARGET DATE FOR COMPLETION OF THE FACILITY AS HE ALREADY HAS APPROVAL FROM THE AIRPORTS AND AUXILIARY SERVICES DIRECTORATE (AS) FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE HANGAR ON THE PLOTS UNDER AG OFFICE CONTROL AT THE CULIACAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. THE GOM CONSTRUCTION FIRM, ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION, (CAPFCE) WILL CONSTRUCT THE SLAB AND PERFORM INTERNAL INSTALLATIONS. WASHINGTON GROUP MAY RECALL CAPFCE BUILT THE ADVANCE BASES IN CHOIX, TOPIA, AND SAN JOSE IN LAST QUARTER OF CY-76 AND RECENTLY COMPLETED THE AG HANGAR AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES IN MEXICO CITY AIRPORT. MARISCAL FLORES WOULD PREFER TO HAVE THE FACTORY ENGINEER MEET WITH CAPFCE ENGINEERS TO RESOLVE SOME TECHNICALITIES ALTHOUGH THEY NOW HAVE THE SPECIFICATIONS RECENTLY MAILED BY FACTORY REP WHO MET WITH HIM. MISSION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AWARE THAT FURTHER ACTION OF THIS NATURE IS NOT POSSIBLE UNTIL CERTAIN DOCUMENT REQUIREMENTS ARE COMPLETED IN WASHINGTON AND LETTER OF AGREEMENT IS SIGNED.

5. REQUESTED ACTION: THAT WASHINGTON GROUP TRANSMIT DRAFT LETTER OF AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE PROCUREMENT. ADVISE.
JOVA

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